

Purpose	 Develop and implement remediation actions that improve the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting
Key Activities	 Develop remediation actions for ineffectively designed Controls (Per Evaluation Phase) Develop remediation actions for ineffectively operating Controls (Per Testing Phase) Implement and Track Corrective Actions
Required Templates	 AART Toolkit Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Form & Content CAP Tracking Sheet





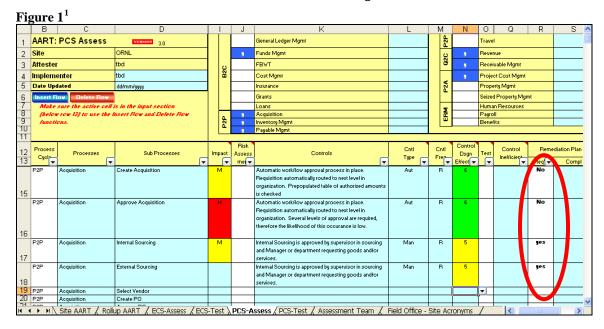
PROCEDURES



The Evaluating and/or Testing phases have been completed to identify entity and process controls that are not designed or operating effectively. Once identified, Field Offices and Sites are responsible for taking timely and effective action to correct deficiencies and weaknesses. The individual(s) performing remediation actions should not be the same individual(s) performing the evaluation of controls.

A. Identify Scope and Remediation Strategy

 Process Remediation: Identify sub-processes and related controls that require remediation. These are flagged with a "Yes" in the "Remediation Plan Req'd" column of the PCS-Assess worksheets of the Site AART Toolkit. Remediation activities may have been identified during the Documentation, Evaluation and/or Testing Phases.



2. **Entity Remediation:** Identify the sub-category and related controls that require remediation. These are flagged with a "Yes" in the "Remediation Plan Req'd" column of the ECS-Assess worksheet of the AART Toolkit. Remediation activities may have been identified during the Documentation, Evaluation and/or Testing Phases.

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¹ Most screen shots reference the PCS-Assess Worksheet, though the columns are the same for both PCS and ECS-Assess Worksheets





3. Remediation Strategy: Prioritize remediation activities and identify individuals accountable for developing corrective actions, tracking remediation and verifying completion/implementation. Based on this prioritization establish an overall remediation strategy that supports the most effective and efficient implementation of corrective actions.

B. Corrective Action Plan Development and Documentation

1. The individual(s) responsible for the remediation will develop a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) that identifies remediation actions for each subprocess/sub-category identified in Section A above.

Key elements of the CAP include:

- ⇒ Summary of deficiency
- ⇒ Responsible official
- ⇒ Remediation Strategy
- ⇒ Process status
- ⇒ Signatures of accountable individuals

The Department's required CAP form and content can be found on the CFO A-123 Website. Sites may add elements to the CAP form and content, but all listed elements must be provided in the site action plan.

2. Documentation must be maintained to support the completion of each milestone all the way through implementation of corrective actions. Documentation may include certifications, reports, memoranda, etc.



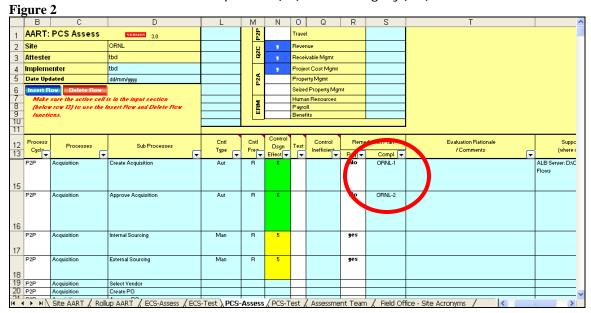
A single CAP may cover multiple sub-processes and related control deficiencies.





C. Corrective Action Plan Tracking

- Prepare the Corrective Action Plan Tracking Sheet: The A-123 Project Lead is responsible for tracking and reporting the status of corrective actions and updating the AART toolkit. A Corrective Action Plan Tracking Sheet has been provided on the CFO A-123 Website for use in tracking corrective action status. This tracking sheet will be required as part of Quarterly Reporting.
- 2. Return to PCS- or ECS- Assess worksheets and:
 - ⇒ Input the Corrective Action Plan ID # (from the CAP Tracking Sheet) into the "Remediation Plan: Complete" column for the related Sub-process(es)/Sub-Category(ies).







D. Documentation of New Controls

1. Document new controls as they are developed during remediation and update sub-process/sub-category documentation accordingly. Documentation should be prepared in accordance with the Documentation Quick Start Guide.

Figure 3 1 AART: PCS Assess General Ledger Mgmt 2 Site Funds Mgmt 3 Attester tbd 4 Implementer
5 Date Updated Cost Mgmt nsurance Grants Cntl Sub Processes Automatic workflow approval process in place. Requisition automatically routed to next level in organization. Prepopulated table of authorized amounts Create Acquisition Person creates a requisition for an unauthorized amo 15 is checked is checked

Automatic workflow approval process in place.

Requisition automatically routed to next level in organization. Several levels of approval are required, therefore the likelihood of this occurance is low. Approve Acquisition Item requested is not for government 16 nternal Sourcing is approved by supervisor in sourcing and Manager or department requesting goods and/or incurrians.
services.
internal Sourcing is approved by supervisor in sourcing External Sourcing Item is externally sourced but could be services. Vendor selected is not the one Purchase Order value is different from



Create PC

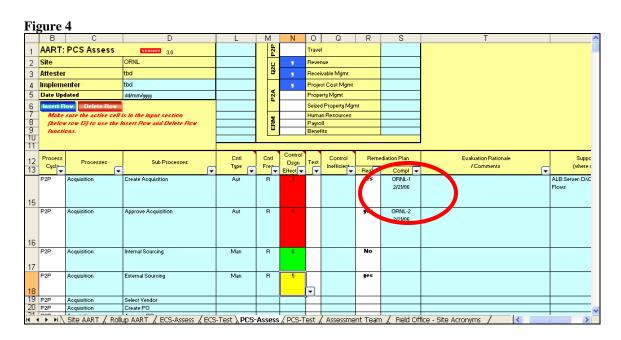
Site AART / Rollup AART / ECS-Assess / ECS-Test / PCS-Assess / PCS-Test / Assessment Team

Entity and process controls with design deficiencies or weaknesses will stay in the Remediation phase until remedial action is complete.





E. Re-Evaluate Sub-Process/Sub-Categories



- 1. Return to the PCS- or ECS-Assess worksheet(s) and:
 - ⇒ Enter the date remediation was completed in the "Remediation Plan: Complete" column for the related Sub-process(es)/Sub-Category(ies). (Note: Do not delete CAP ID#)



To enter the date in a second row under the CAP# place cursor behind the CAP# and use alt-enter to begin a new row within a cell.

- ⇒ Update the Controls column to reflect any new key controls implemented.
- ⇒ Change the Control Design Effectiveness rating to **Green**.
- ⇒ Delete prior test result rating (i.e., Pass/Fail) to prepare the new control for testing.
- ⇒ Test the control(s) in accordance with the Testing Guide.



The test plan will need to be re-evaluated for any new controls developed and implemented as part of Remediation.





F. Update Implementation Plan

- 1. Document the results of the remediation activities performed
- 2. Review Implementation Plan for accuracy.
- 3. Make and track necessary changes.



Major changes to the Implementation Plan will need to be reported in Quarterly Reports.

4. Return to the Documenting phase.



Assessment Teams should report in their quarterly and annual reports those deficiencies that represent significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls that could adversely affect the ability to meet internal control objectives. For purposes of OMB-A-123 reporting, these types of deficiencies are called reportable conditions (see DOE Interim Guidance for OMB Circular A-123 for more information).





REFERENCES

See CFO A-123 Website for suggested reading material:

OMB A-123 Appendix A CFO Council Implementation Guide for OMB Circular A-123 Financial Audit Manual (GAO-01-765G) DOE OMB Circular A-123, Appendix A, Implementation Plan DOE Interim Guidance for OMB Circular A-123 FY 2005 Audit Report FY 2005 Management Letter

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Refer to the CFO A-123 website which will be updated with latest materials including tools, FAQs and additional reading material. (http://www.cfo.doe.gov/progliaison/doeA123/index.htm)

DEFINITIONS

Word	Definition
Attester	The person who will be required to affirm the
	authenticity of information for the LPSO.
Cognizant Secretarial	Headquarters Elements that provide significant funding
Office (CSO)	to Field Offices overseen by the LPSOs.
Field Office (FO)	Location where the Site Assessment Team manages the
	A-123 Implementation for its Sites. Only the Field Office
	provides assurance to the LPSO.
Headquarters	Lead Program Secretarial Office or Headquarters
Element	Business Program that is affected by the financial
	reporting requirements of OMB A-123, Appendix A.
Implementer	The person responsible for executing the activities to
	support the Attester's affirmation.
Lead Program	Headquarters Element whose cognizance includes those
Secretarial Office	Field Offices that are affected by the financial reporting
(LPSO)	requirements of OMB A-123, Appendix A. These LPSOs
	provide oversight activities to Field Offices that directly
	impact the accounts determined to be material to the
	Department's financial statements.
Process	The highest level of sub-processes within a process
	cycle.
Process Cycle	An end-to-end sequence of events consisting of the
	methods and records used to establish, identify,
	assemble, analyze, classify, and record transactions. ²
Site	Unit of a Field Office including the Field Office federal
	activities and its contractors (both integrated and non-
	integrated). Predefined by Headquarters.

² Adapted from the CFO Council Implementation Guide

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NEXT PHASE

